

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 02382 101455Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SS-15 EB-08 SP-02 FEAE-00
/043 W

-----101523Z 125340 /43

R 101431Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 508

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 2382

DEPT PLS PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR JAMES SCHLESINGER FROM
SPIERS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (BENN, ANTHONY WEDGWOOD), ENRG, UK
SUBJECT: BENN-SCHLESINGER MEETING

1. DURING FOREIGN SECRETARY'S FAREWELL DINNER FOR AMB.
ARMSTRONG LAST NIGHT, ANTHONY WEDGWOOD BENN, SECRETARY
OF STATE FOR ENERGY, ASKED ME IF I WOULD EXPLORE WITH
YOU, ON A PURELY PRIVATE BASIS, THE POSSIBILITY OF HIS
MEETING WITH YOU BRIEFLY SOMETIME BEFORE MID-APRIL TO
TALK ABOUT ENERGY POLICY. HE IS PREPARED TO COME TO
WASHINGTON ON A QUICK TRIP IF YOU ARE AVAILABLE.

2. I RECOMMEND YOU AGREE TO MEET WITH BENN IF IT IS
POSSIBLE. HIS LEFTWING POLITICAL BELIEFS DO CONTRIBUTE
TO HIS CONTROVERSIAL IMAGE AND VIEWS ON ENERGY POLICY,
BUT HE IS AN INTELLIGENT, PERCEPTIVE AND PERSONALLY EN-
GAGING MAN WHO HAS HAD TO CONFRONT THE ACCROSS-THE-BOARD
PROBLEMS OF RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF INDIGENOUS OIL, GAS,
COAL, AS WELL AS NUCLEAR POWER RESOURCES. I WOULD THINK
A DISCUSSION WOULD BE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL.

3. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION, SIR JACK RAMPTON (BENN'S
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TOP CIVIL SERVANT AS PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY) ALSO OF-
FERED TO MEET WITH YOU OR MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFF TO DIS-
CUSS HIS EXPERIENCE SINCE 1974 IN ORGANIZING AND SUPER-
VISING A NEWLY ESTABLISHED DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY. POSSIBLY
IT WOULD BE FEASIBLE TO HAVE BOTH BENN AND RAMPTON GO
TOGETHER.

4. PERHAPS YOU OR SOMEONE ON YOUR STAFF COULD CALL ME.
IF YOU ARE AGREEABLE IN PRINCIPLE TO MEETING WITH BENN, I
COULD ARRANGE A MUTUALLY CONVIENT TIME.

ARMSTRONG

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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